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JOINT PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

JAN 07 2005

In re Application of

Timothy R. Hansen et al.

Group Art Unit: 2856

Serial No.: 10/073,203

Examiner: Tamiko D. Bellamy

Filed: February 13, 2002

FOR: A System and Method for Verifying the Integrity of the Condition and Operation of a Pipetter Device for Manipulating Fluid Samples

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

**Mail Stop: Amendment
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby transmit a copy of the documents listed in the attached Form PTO-1449, which may be deemed material to the examination of the above-identified application.

In accordance with the amendments to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a) (revisions effective Oct. 21, 2004) and as discussed in the Official Gazette on Oct. 19, 2004 (1287 OG 163), copies of U.S. patents and published applications cited herein have been omitted.

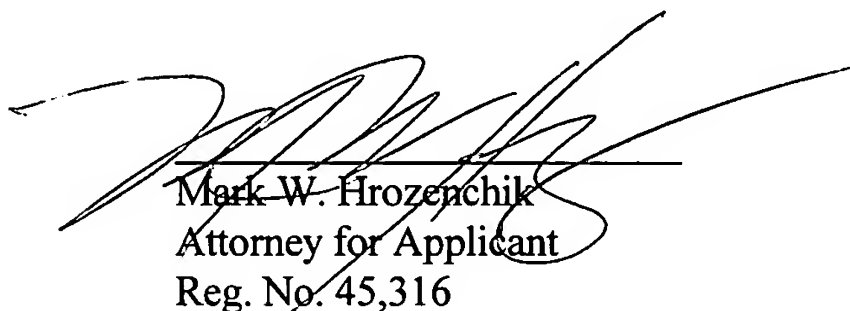
These documents were cited in a European Search Report for European Patent Application Serial No. EP 03 00 3077 related to the above-identified U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/073,203. For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of the European Search Report in which these documents were cited is attached.

Since the present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after issuance of a first Office Action on the merits, the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) of \$180.00 is required and enclosed herein. Please charge any additional fee(s) or underpayments of fee(s) under 37 C.F. R. §§1.16 and 1.17, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 18-2220.

The Examiner is requested to consider the attached document in connection with the above-identified application and to return a copy of Form PTO-1449 to the Applicants with the Examiner's initials in the spaces provided.

Submission of this Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission by the Applicants as to the materiality of the attached documents to the application, nor do the Applicants waive any right to challenge the validity of the documents as prior art should such action be deemed appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: JANUARY 7, 2005

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Complete if Known			
		Application Number	10/073,203		
		Filing Date	February 13, 2002		
		First Named Inventor	Timothy R. Hansen et al.		
		Art Unit	---		
		Examiner Name	---		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	42558

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <i>(if known)</i>			
		US-4,780,833	10-25-1988	Atake	
		US-6,043,880	03-28-2000	Andrews et al.	
		US-5,578,270	11-26-1996	Reichler et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T
		Country Code-Number- Kind Code <i>(if known)</i>				
		EP 0341 438	11-15-1989	Robert C. Hollaret et al.		
		EP 0 571 100	11-24-1993	Pertti P. Tolonen et al.		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publishers, city and/or country where published	T

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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